National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Headquarters

Washington, DC 20546-0001



April 23, 2013

Reply to Attn of:

General Law Practice Group

TO:

Distribution

FROM:

Alternate Designated Agency Ethics Official

SUBJECT:

Determination Regarding Attendance at the International Astronautical

Federation's (IAF) Cocktail Reception Sponsored by Japan Aerospace

Exploration Agency (JAXA) on April 25, 2013

On April 25, 2013, the International Astronautical Federation (IAF) will host a cocktail reception at the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) office in Washington, D.C. This event will be sponsored by JAXA. IAF is a non-governmental, nonprofit, membership organization, based in Paris, France. The IAF encourages the advancement of knowledge about space and the development and application of space assets for the benefit of humanity. It disseminates information and provides a significant worldwide network of experts in the development and utilization of space.

The reception will be widely attended by representatives from other Federal agencies, members of congress and staff, industry representatives, academia, and other not for profit organizations. Approximately, 60 individuals are expected to attend. The estimated cost of the dinner, which includes all food and beverages, is \$20 per person. I find that this event meets the requirements of a "widely attended gathering" as defined in 5 C.F.R. § 2635.204(g). I further determine that there is an Agency interest in having NASA personnel attend the event because it will further Agency programs or operations. This event will allow NASA employees the opportunity to discuss space-related issues and NASA programs with other attendees.

Accordingly, NASA employees whose duties do not substantially affect the sponsor, including NASA employees in non-career positions who are required to sign the ethics pledge under Executive Order 13490, may accept an invitation for themselves and an invited guest for free attendance to the event.

However, NASA employees whose duties may substantially affect the event sponsor, such as by way of procurement duties, should seek an individual determination pursuant to 5 C.F.R. § 2635.204(g)(3)(i) regarding participation in this event from their local ethics counselor.

Adam F. Greenstone